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OF

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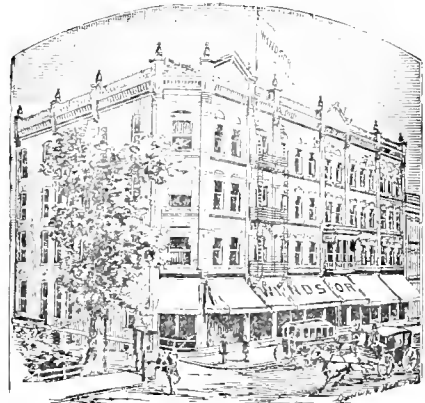
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HISTORICAL SERIES No. 1.

Middleburgh
and
Vicinity

Schoharie Co.
N. Y.

"GRIP'S" GAZETTE

AN ILLUSTRATED
MONTHLY MAGAZINE

Subscription, \$1 a year

Devoted to *Personal, Historical, Social, Professional, Mercantile, Agricultural and Industrial Affairs* of the Empire State.

MIDDLEBURGH is a busy, growing town, located in one of the best and most fertile agricultural sections of the state, the Schoharie valley. It is surrounded by broad, rich river bottoms and rolling uplands, and tracts of valuable timber, settled by a hardy, thrifty class of well-to-do, intelligent farmers, largely owners of the acres they cultivate. They are people who give their children the advantages of higher education. The population of the village, about 1,500, comprises, quite largely, people of steady habits and good circumstances. The business men are up to the times in trade and prices and the styles of

measure it is a cash trade, one of the leading Middleburgh firms, as will be noted in a following paragraph, doing business entirely on the cash basis.

The Prospects of Middleburgh promise a bright future. The town has entered the era of progress and quick development which comes to every place having a go-a-head people and an eligible location. It has an excellent, graded Union School with the best corps of teachers that can be employed. The churches are commodious, attractive buildings, surrounded by well kept grounds and are supported with that open hand which pays to beneficent Providence the just trib-



"RIVERSIDE" - THE SCHOHARIE VALLEY - Middleburgh, N. Y.

merchandise. The editors, physicians, lawyers, clergymen and tutors are thoroughly informed and well educated and are among the best known in the professions in the county. The trades are fully represented by experienced men who are often large employers. Devotion to home institutions, church attendance and marked hospitality are characteristics of the people that at once arrest the attention of the visitor.

MIDDLEBURGH IS THE TERMINUS of the Middleburgh & Schoharie railroad and distributes mail and supplies to nearly one-half of Schoharie and no small portion of Albany counties. It is the centre of a very large agricultural section and the trade that comes to the town in the course of the year would surprise many much larger places. In an unusually considerable

ute of a prosperous people. The stores are large and roomy, well filled with modern assortments and manned by competent and courteous clerks. There are four good hotels largely patronized by the traveling public.

THE STREETS ARE BROAD AND SHADY, kept in good repair and well provided with walks. The columns of three village papers, and of the fourth published in the adjacent village of Schoharie by a Middleburgh editor, making it practically an institution of the town, are newsy and well edited and attest to the driving local trade that is done in the course of the year. There is

A GOOD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT of which the majority of the business men are active members, and they all feel a pride in its effi-

the West. When the price of a grain, vegetable or fruit is high, the farmer will be glad to ship it to the city by express.

The express companies supply of value a large part of the produce of the Schoharie valley. The express companies are not only a great benefit to the farmer, but they are also a great benefit to the city. The express companies are also a great benefit to the city. The express companies are also a great benefit to the city.

Grandison N. Frisbie, a well known merchant of Middleburgh, formerly of Catskill, was born in Rochester, Delaware county, N. Y., May 24, 1814. At seventeen years of age he was apprenticed in the harness trade to his brother at



Elfordham, and at twenty years of age became his partner. Afterwards, leaving harness and conducting it alone. In 1834 he began harness making in Middleburgh. In 1868 he bought a one-half interest

in the general store of Charles Earles, and subsequently a half interest with W. G. Loomsbury & Co. in the hardware business. He subsequently, with his two sons, Daniel D. and George D., as equal partners took the Earles store and in April, 1870, the entire business passed into the hands of the sons. Mr. Frisbie went into real estate and insurance, which in the space of three years has taken the lead. He was one of the principal promoters of the Middleburgh and Schoharie railroad and much of its success is due to his wise management. Since March 23, 1878, he has been its president and general manager. He was one of the first and largest local subscribers to the stock of the First National bank, and from the time of its organization has been its vice president. In 1878 he married Kate, the daughter of Daniel D. Dodge, of Middleburgh, who was a prominent merchant and one year a member of Assembly. Their daughters are Mrs. Dow Bookman and Miss Emma Frisbie. Mr. Frisbie is an elder in the Lutheran church.

Increased Railroad Facilities are what several of the business men are desiring hard to obtain. As above stated two projects are materially advanced. In both cases the incorporation papers have been filed with the secretary of state the required percentage on the capital stock paid in and the surveys and figures necessary to establish the route and grades completed. In both instances the promoters claim a prompt but only temporary termination of proceedings.

THE PENNSYLVANIA WESTERN

connecting the Pennsylvania coal fields with New England and New York, follows the Delaware river and the Susquehanna, with a necessary grade change of more than a hundred feet. Back of this is the Pennsylvania Delaware company, granting the right of way for a considerable distance, and the project has been a subject of active consideration for some time. The Pennsylvania Western is a project of the Middleburgh and Schoharie railroad.

with the shops located there. It places the town two hours nearer the coal beds and with one-half less freight on fuel.

THE COOPERSTOWN, MIDDLEBURGH AND CATSKILL RAILROAD

This connects Middleburgh with Catskill, a short cut to New York and a saving of one-half present distance and one-half transportation rates on all merchandise and freight. It will open up an heretofore unavailable New York market for local productions and will enable the farmers of the Schoharie valley, of which there is no better garden country in the state, to develop a new and profitable industry—the raising of early vegetables for the New York market. The road continuing west from Middleburgh connects with Cooperstown and Richfield Springs. It passes through unsurpassed scenery presenting summer tourists with views that are grand and sublime. A twenty mile link is in successful operation.

The Middleburgh & Schoharie Railroad was constructed in 1878 under the authority of the legislative enactment of May 8, 1867. The road is six miles long over level lands with little filling and cutting. It connects Middleburgh and Schoharie villages. The road and trains are continuous five miles farther north to a junction with the D. & H., but the Schoharie and Junction stretch, known as the Schoharie Valley road, is owned and operated by private interests which have greatly handicapped the Middleburgh company, as the latter depends upon this north bit of road for an outlet. At one time the Middleburgh company could have purchased the Schoharie road and Mr. G. N. Frisbie urged them to do it, offering to individually subscribe \$50,000. Since then they have been unable to buy it. When the D. & H. had been built as far as Oneonta and the Schoharie people had determined to tie on to that road at the Junction, a few leading spirits at Middleburgh met at Ed. Atkinson's hotel, and after considering the matter carefully determined that they could hitch on at Schoharie by raising \$100,000, the town to take \$50,000 and the balance to come from private subscriptions. As a matter of fact the total capitalization, fully paid in, was but \$425,000. The town was bonded but comparative little to raise the full amount of its subscription. The railroad company placed the bonds at 7 per cent at par. They were fully retired, principal and interest, by James Borst, railroad commissioner, in 1891. The men who actively promoted the road and who were chosen the first board of directors February 9, 1867, were G. N. Frisbie, David Becker, J. M. Scribner, Lyman Sanford, George F. Doughty, Jacob Neville, Marvin Scott, Wm. H. Eagle, Martin O. Cooper, Martin L. Borst, Erasmus Cook, Daniel D. Dodge, Jesse H. Alger, Marcus Bellinger. The first named served the first year as railroad commissioner, then resigned and entered the board of directors where he has since been. The individual subscribers to the stock, altogether about seventy-five, included many small holders in and about Middleburgh about \$100,000 in Albany holdings and the balance in New York. The company adhered rigidly to the resolution passed by the board of directors September 7, 1867, viz.: Not a dollar of indebtedness to be incurred in its construction and payments, all work to stop when the money runs out. No stock has been watered, no dividends have been paid and there is money in the treasury. The only salaries paid to officials are \$20 a month each to the secretary and treasurer who acts as passenger agent, and to the station and freight agent at Middleburgh. Other officers and

directors serve without compensation. The contract for the construction of the road complete was let to G. N. Norton for \$71,000, December 17, 1867. On May 8, 1867, three acres of land for the terminal buildings were purchased of S. B. Welis. The buildings, a passenger depot 20 x 36, freight depot 25 x 100, and an engine house 25 x 50 feet, were completed September 1, 1868.

Duryea Beekman is the president and one of the incorporators of the First National bank. He is vice-president and has served as secretary of the Middleburgh and Schoharie railroad, with which



he has been identified from its beginning. His ancestors were of the sturdy New England race. His grandfather, the Hon. William Beekman, was the first judge of Schoharie county, appointed June 10, 1795, and serving with distinction until 1833. His son

Nicholas, the father of Duryea, who died January 13, 1874, served in the state assembly in 1841. The subject of this sketch was elected to the assembly of 1879 by a majority of 1500, which exceeds the average majority of later years. He was born at Seward, Schoharie county, August 9, 1840. His early years on a farm were devoted to hard study, developing that conscientious and persevering character which has placed him at the head of a successful bank. On October 16, 1859, he married Elizabeth Richtmyer. One child, Charles, died when eight months old. The other two are living—Dow, a practicing attorney, and William G., now in college. Mr. Beekman is an active democrat.

The Scenery Around Middleburgh is magnificent. It has many attractions for summer homes. Here the valleys of the Schoharie and the Little Schoharie unite. Together they lead the way directly north to the Mohawk, watered by the broad bosom of the historic Schoharie creek with its alternating deeps and shallows and its treasures of bass, pickerel and numerous other finny game. The Little Schoharie tumbles down through that valley which leads directly east to Catskill. The main Schoharie creek and valley rise from the swelling bosom of the loftiest of the Catskill group, *Hunter mountain*, coming in at Middleburgh from the south by east. The pickets of the Catskills, nosing between the two valleys from the south, and their sister or spur summits, the Hellebergs on the east, and the Middlebergs on the west, maintain eternal vigilance over the pretty village nestling in security from high winds and cold winters, at their feet. What a magnificent panorama is presented from either one of those summits! the *Oncongona*; the *Onistagravawagh* (called by reason of its profile, "Vroman's Nose"); the *Mohegonter* with its lofty pinnacle and huge shoulders, one of which is sliced off to a perpendicular height of 300 feet; or the *Kanjeearagore*, clad in leafy habiliments from its feet to its black, rocky seamed brows, from which is derived the name by which it is commonly known—"the Cliff!"

The First Settlement in Schoharie County was at Middleburgh. Sixty families of Palatamates, refugees from old Germany, cut their way through the woods from the Hudson river in 1713, under the leadership of John Conrad Weiser. The historians do not fix the exact year of their arrival, but after reading the statement of grievances which they sent to King George in 1720, a verified copy of which appears in Roscoe's history, that point seems to be clear. They were settled in the camps of the Livingston's in 1710. "The latter end of that year (referring to 'the second year of their abode at Livingston's')." says the petition, "There being no provisions to be had and the people bare of clothes, which occasioned a terrible consternation, * * * some of their chiefs were suddenly dispatched away to the Indians," etc. This was in the winter of 1712. "The chiefs returned to the people, acquainting them with the favorable disposition of the Indians, * * * all hands were put at work and in two weeks cleared a way through the woods of fifteen miles long * * * which being effected, fifty families were immediately sent to *Schorie*." This must have been in the beginning of the year of 1713, because the petition a little further on says, "In the same year in March, did the remainder of the people proceed on their journey, and by God's assistance travell'd in fournight with sledges thro' the snow which then covered the ground above three feet deep, Cold and Hunger joyined their friends and countrymen in the Promised Land, *Schorie*." The Indians referred to were the Mohegans.

Willard G. Putnam, cashier of the First National Bank, has had considerable experience as a financier. He was born in Troy, August 21, 1838. He received a liberal education and in early life



became identified with the Rensselaer and Saratoga railroad, occupying for ten years the position of general ticket agent and paymaster of that road. During the sixties he established and controlled the Putnam Ship Towing & Ex-

cursion line of boats in New York harbor and was intimately associated with such well known ship owners as Moses H. Grinnell, Marshall O. Roberts and Charles H. Marshall. Sixteen years ago he came to Middleburgh for his health. He accepted a position in the bank three years later, and for the past ten years has served ably and efficiently as cashier. In 1868 he married Miss Elizabeth Shufelt of Troy. He is a member of the Ivanhoe Lodge of Odd Fellows, No. 127, of Brooklyn, and is an active member and steward of the Methodist church of Middleburgh.

The First Title to Schoharie Lands known to have been recorded was obtained by Adam Vroman from the Indians, and the tract has since been known as Vroman's Land. It is two miles south-west of Middleburgh. The conveyance is dated Schenectady, August 20, 1711. He obtained a Royal Patent to these lands from King George August 20, 1714. On March 30, 1720, he obtained

and the Indians. He settled his place on the waters of Hollanders and there was a constant friction between his people and the Indians, but they were able to settle their differences in friendly relations.

J. Schuyler Vroman is a direct descendant of Allen Vroman, who purchased from the Indians, and settled a large tract of land adjacent to the village of Middleburgh. Ephraim, his



father, married a daughter of Peter Matice of the town of Middleburgh. His grandfather, Josiah, married a daughter of Col. Dietz. His great-grandfather, Ephraim, and wife suffered severely from the depredations of the Tories and Indians in the revolution.

They were driven from their home by Brant and a party of Indians and sought concealment in a corn field. She was murdered, but he and an infant in his arms were taken prisoners. Their descendants have multiplied and figured conspicuously in the growth and development of Middleburgh. Mr. Vroman was born October 21, 1844. He left the farm at sixteen years of age and attended school at Charlotteville and Catskill. At nineteen years of age he taught school. In 1873 he went into business with George Shaler at Calhoun, and subsequently returned to teaching. On September 1, 1876, he married Alice, the daughter of R. V. Kniskern, of Schoharie. Her grandfather, Freeman Stanton, was a prominent merchant of Middleburgh. Mr. Vroman is an active democrat who maintains strict conscientious scruples against the use of money in elections. He is a vigorous and untiring worker for the party. He was elected supervisor last year from the town of Middleburgh and his official actions in the board carry with them the conviction of a faithful discharge of duty.

Middleburgh Stands on Historic Ground. It was the gateway for the Tory and Indian expeditions to and from their headquarters on the Niagara river during the revolutionary war. Three forts were constructed in 1777 in the Schoharie valley to dispute their passage and many battles and skirmishes resulted at this point. All that remains of the middle fort one mile north of Middleburgh is a narrow stone building with the old fashioned steep Dutch roof. A sketch of the fort as it stood at the time of the invasion by Sir John Johnson and Brant on the 17th day of October, 1783, when the village and neighboring settlements were burned, was drawn by R. A. Grider, of Catskill, in 1887. Three acres were enclosed with palisades, the line of which was years afterwards verified by means of holes in the ground in which were found the rotting stumps of the pickets. The buildings, a stone house and log barn were standing within the recollection of people living in the year. Mr. Grider drew the plan. Within the past few years many valuable relics have been plowed up on the site of the old fort and on adjacent lands. Mr. F. H. Mallory has a curious collection of arrow heads, coins, musket locks and balls. Knives and tomahawks have been picked up in the village. Among the latter is a most curious piece and blade attached to a handle bearing fifty notches.

Middleburgh was Erected into a Town March 17, 1787. It was then Middlestown. It received its present name April 7, 1801. Schoharie county was formed from Albany and Otsego counties April 6, 1787. The town of Fulton was detached from Middleburgh April 15, 1822, and the present limits were established by detaching portions now included in the town of Broome in 1847. The village was originally Weisersdorf. It was subsequently known as Hunterfield. The village was incorporated April 10, 1851. Those who are entitled to credit for the movement are George Dodge, G. N. Foster, J. L. Young, H. D. Wells, Harrison Hallerbeck, Wm. Dunn, M. G. Jensen, J. L. Engle, David Bassler, W. H. Engle, John H. Mallory, W. E. Thorne, Halley Snyder, A. J. Freeman, G. S. Lyles, John H. Cornell, Frank Struble, J. B. Badgley, G. L. Danforth, Joseph Becker, W. E. Bassler, J. Newell, D. Beckman, M. Scott, Dr. James Lawyer.

William E. Thorne, is the president of the village. Mr. Thorne has been for the eleventh time elected to this position without opposition in the town of Middleburgh. He is prominent in every



progressive step in village affairs, the incorporation of the town, the organization of the fire department, the building of the water works, the school, grading the streets, and the building of the Coopers Union, Middleburgh, N. Y.

Mr. Thorne was a promoter and is the president of the cemetery association and is a director of the Middleburgh & Schoharie railroad. He was born in Athens, Greece county, July 21, 1842. He was educated in the academy at Knox, Albany county, and studied law with Judge Mayhew at Elmira, N. Y. He was admitted to practice in the state courts December, 1864, and in the United States courts April, 1867. He entered into partnership with the late Judge Lee at Sandlet in Middleburgh, January 1, 1868, which continued up to the latter's death March, 1881. He served as district attorney in 1875 and was prominently supported for county judge in 1880. He served as surrogate in special cases, but to the office was disqualified. He is one of the most prominent democrats in the county having been delegate to a number of state conventions and having served as chairman of the town committee for twenty-one consecutive terms. He is an Odd Fellow and was the first master of the local Masonic lodge and in 1878 was district deputy grand master of the 11th Masonic district. He is regarded as one of the best working Masons in the state. He is also a member of the B. F. G. Corps and St. George's Commandery at Schoharie.

George A. Dutton is one of the board of village trustees and a member of the democratic county committee. He was born in Broome, September 23, 1837, and spent his entire time to farming until 1880, when he moved into the village. He owns a farm of 70 acres which occupies much of his attention. It is situated two miles east of



THE OLD BRIDGE AT MIDDLEBURGH—SCHOHARIE VALLEY.

Franklinton. His principal interest is sheep raising, in which he has been quite successful. On March 4, 1874, he married Elmira B., the daughter of Robert C. Leonard, of Broome. They are identified with the Reformed church, at which they are regular attendants. Mr. Dutton is a member of the local Masonic lodge. He has interested himself in the necessity of water works and as a member of the village board of trustees did his share towards making the enterprise an assured fact.

William Tompkins, a trustee of the village of Middleburgh, was born in that town April 2, 1848. His father, Samuel, was a farmer. At eighteen years of age Mr. Tompkins moved to the village. He learned the trade of a moulder and followed that business for fifteen years, having for a partner Nathaniel Tompkins. He subsequently built a saw mill which he has since conducted, turning out lumber for the trade. He is a member of La Bastille lodge of Odd Fellows No. 494 of Middleburgh. He married Abbie, the daughter of John Lambert, in February, 1888. He was elected a trustee of the village a year ago last spring and is one of the board which has brought into the village the new water system.

George E. Borst, one of the village trustees, occupies much of his time in the public affairs of the town. He was born in Middleburgh, January 27, 1845. Twenty-five years ago he started in the harness business on Railroad street, subsequently locating in the Borst block on Main street, where he now conducts a large harness and general saddlery supply and manufacturing establishment, dealing extensively in wagons and sleighs. He is actively identified with the Methodist church, being one of the building committee. He is treasurer of the Middleburgh Cemetery association and of the fire department. Mr. Borst is

entitled to a share of credit as one of the village board in granting a franchise for the new water company.

William H. Neville, for three years the editor of the *Gazette* and for two years a member of the democratic county committee, but who resigned this fall, was born at Middleburgh, August 6, 1867.



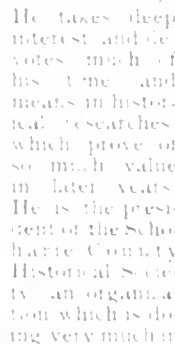
His father, Jacob Neville, was a prominent democrat and for thirty years one of the best known merchants in the town. He left a handsome competence at the time of his death. His son, William H., attended the Albany academy 1884-5. He was deputy in the

post-office under his father during Cleveland's first administration, and following that was with the Brandow Printing Company at Albany one year. On December 10, 1891, he bought the Middleburgh *Gazette*, which he sold September 6, 1894. On June 22, 1893, he married Maude E., the daughter of H. O. Lewis, of Conesville. He is a member of the Odd Fellows Encampment, Canton Young at Schoharie, the Middleburgh lodge F. and A. M., and the Red Men.

George W. Vroman, a leading merchant, was born in Middleburgh, October 21, 1848. His father, Abram L. Vroman, was an old resident of the town, a carpenter by trade. His mother was

Justices of Peace J. S. BERRY H. M. MURPHY
Clerk O. D. WILSON George S. ALLEN

George Lintner Danforth, lawyer, literature and education, is the descendant of an old established family which was so largely active in the settlement and building up of Schoharie county.



residual of our records and historical relics, and has placed at the disposal of the society many valuable items in the form of writings and addresses. He was a member of the constitutional convention of 1847. His grandfather, George, a lawyer, a prominent abolitionist in the north. His father, the late's general court judge, Peter S. Darruth lived to more than three score and fifteen years, and filled the pages of local history with the lists of his pet civil liberties. He died three years ago. George Luther was born at Middleburgh, N. Y., May 17, 1841. He was graduated at Rutgers college in 1864. He is trustee of that university, and president of its alumni association. He was a member of the bar in 1867. He is president of the board of trustees of the Union Free school district of the First National Park, a trustee of the Middleburgh and Saratoga Railroad Company. He is an active Mason, and one of the year's most earnest democratic politicians. His home is the spacious, substantial mansion on the best spot of the valley, where the inspiration of the Dutch's of years ago may be traced by Mr. Darruth, and his accomplished wife, Hilda, called Mrs. Pierre W. Darruth. He is a student at law in his own law office, the center and polestar of the Middleburgh Press.

President W. T. O.
Trustees Geo. E. L. Geo. F. A. D.
Wm. P. L.
Village Clerk Wm. H. N.
Treasurer W. G. P.
Collector S. M. S.
Street Commissioner R. F. W.
Police Justice H. M. M.
Police Constables O. C. S. E. F. C. M.
County School Commissioner, 1st District
H. A. S.
Board of Education Geo. E. L. D. O.
C. E. L. A. S. S. C. S. P.
Supervisor J. S. D. F. C. P.
Town Clerk J. A. S. A.

The Union Free School of the village of Middleburgh was established by a union of school districts Nos. 4 and 5, by a vote of the three districts taken at a town meeting held in the village of Middleburgh January 10, 1851. The first board of education chosen at that meeting were W. H. Abbot, Harmon A. Crane and Montreville Gernsey. Mr. Abbot was elected president. Mr. Gernsey held the office during September and Lewis Fox was elected in October to fill the vacancy. The board purchased a plot of two acres of Men's Street of Dr. Henry Wells and Bartholomew Becker, each here giving \$1,000. The building is a three-story brick structure supported by a central column. The first and second floors are each equally divided to a main hall passing from the front to the rear entrance with two rooms on each side. Two flights of stairs lead from the first floor to the top story which is entirely

devoted to a public hall, probably the most commodious in the county. The building complete cost about \$17,000. It is supplied with as good a philosophical apparatus and library as can be found in any school district of the size, at a cost of about \$1,000. Two furnaces with registers cost \$2,000, the furniture another \$1,000. This with the cost of the land and the subsequent grading, laying walks, etc., brings the total cost of the school property and furnishings up to about \$25,000.

J. Edward Young, editor of the *Middleburgh Gazette* and member of the board of education, was born in Prattsville, Greene county, N. Y., January 6, 1848. He graduated at Roxbury seminary.



He is a forcible, vigorous writer doing considerable literary work for other publications. He served as town clerk two years and for twelve consecutive years, beginning 1881, village clerk. He represented Schoharie county in the assembly of 1889.

He is a stockholder in the first National bank, and is one of the promoters and directors of the Middleburgh Water company. He was active in the incorporation of the village and has served six years as treasurer for the Middleburgh academy, being, in 1892, unanimously elected member of the board. He is an uncompromising democrat often representing his party in state and county conventions and on the county committee. He was married to Miss Inez, daughter of James A. Bouck of Conesville on Nov. 15, 1893. He is district deputy grand patriarch, I O. O. F. for the Schoharie district, and a member of Canton Young of Schoharie, which is named after him.

F. A. Wells, of Badgley & Wells, is one of the young, enterprising business men of the village. He was born in Middleburgh, December 13, 1859. At twenty years of age he entered a clerkship with J. B. Badgley in the drug business. Eight years ago he accepted an interest in the store. C. M. Badgley, also a partner, has since retired from the firm and it has continued under the firm name of Badgley & Wells. The latter is a charter and active member of the Scribner hook and ladder company and is personally active in whatever promises the best interests of the village. In March, 1891, he married Miss Ina Straub. The firm does a large and widely extended business in drugs, paints, oils and adjunctory lines of merchandise. Its patronage comes from a considerable stretch of country. The store is in a commodious building in the centre of the village and occupies two floors.

Robert O. Gordon, proprietor of the Gordon House has built up a paying business, having had considerable experience behind the desk in the leading Susquehanna valley hotels. He was clerk in the Babcock at East Worcester three years, in the Central at Oneonta four and a half years, in the Ballard at Cooperstown four years and in the White House at Middleburgh four and one-half

years. He is an active democrat, a member of the local Masonic order and of the Independent Order of Red Men.

P. H. Fredericks is one of the largest furniture dealers in the county. He was born in Seward, Schoharie county, January 5, 1840. At twenty-two years of age he learned the carpenter's trade and followed it sixteen years in Cobleskill. For four years he manufactured spring beds. On November 27, 1882, he came to Middleburgh and began business in furniture and undertaking on Railroad street. In 1886 he bought a most eligible plot 41 x 600 feet on Main street, in the center of the village. On this he erected a pretty three story brick building. His property comprises one of the best block of building sites in town. His stock of goods includes carpets, furniture, oil cloths, etc., a considerable portion of the best articles of which he manufactures himself. The building comprises his store on the ground floor, a suite of residences on the second floor, and a commodious lodge room on the third floor which is occupied by the La Bastille Lodge of Odd Fellows No. 494.

The Firm of West & Taylor was established in 1891. The business consists of groceries, provisions and flour and feed, which are supplied to a large farming section. During the first year the firm sold 1000 barrels of flour and twenty-five car loads of feed, which was then regarded as a remarkable trade. Subsequently these figures have increased each year, the trade reaching for several miles in every direction. The store capacity becoming overtaxed the firm secured a warehouse at the depot where the unloading of cars is facilitated and where a large stock can be safely and conveniently stored. The firm has the agency of the Granite City mills, St. Cloud, Minn., and flour is shipped directly from the mills to them. They also buy and ship large consignments of country produce.

The Union Free School Teachers. — H. H. SNELL, Ph.B., principal and librarian; MATTHEW E. SNELL, vice-principal; Miss ELLA C. CROSSWELL, perceptress; Miss ELIZABETH M. RORICK, grammar department; Miss ALICE M. REQUA, intermediate department; Miss ANNA E. BECKER, A. primary; Miss CORNELIA BOUCK, B. primary.

John Philip Segner, a leading furniture dealer, undertaker and embalmer, is a representative German-American citizen and is active in local democratic politics, having served as town clerk



two years. He was born in Wertheim, Germany, June 22, 1860, where he learned the trade of cabinet maker. He worked in Liverpool at nineteen years of age and landed in Middleburgh August, 1880, and was employed by John

Souers. In 1881 he traveled through the west and on his return formed a copartnership with Souers. This was dissolved in 1884 and Segner journeyed around the globe. In 1887 he succeeded Souers and has since built up a large business. He is a practical undertaker and embalmer having a diploma from the United States College of Embalming dated August 7, 1891. On April 23, 1888, he married a daughter of George P. Messer of Middleburgh.

A. J. Freemyer, of the Free-voer House at Middleburgh, is a native of Middleburgh, N. Y., and was born October 1, 1834. He is the son of the late Dr. H. D. Hall, and is the youngest of the family.



He is the son of the late Dr. H. D. Hall, and is the youngest of the family. He is a native of Middleburgh, N. Y., and was born October 1, 1834. He is the son of the late Dr. H. D. Hall, and is the youngest of the family.

and raised the same party and has the opportunity of making considerable improvements. In 1884 he married Nellie Catharine, the daughter of Wm. Snyder. Their son, William, is dead. Their daughter, Mrs. Hattie Peterson of Albany. Mr. Freemyer is a staunch democrat and years ago was very active in local politics. The Free-voer House was built twenty years ago by a merchant named Percell. The land belongs to Mr. Freemyer's time were Messrs. Tyler and Holton, Abram S. De Myers, Nicholas Snyder, David Dutton, one of the Longhams and F. D. Allen, son of

Dr. Hadley Snyder, for years a long time, was in 1872 a member of assembly for three years a school trustee and one of the promoters of the present excellent graded school and for a number of terms a supervisor. was born October 21, 1836, at Newville, Herkimer county. At ten months of age he entered the dental office of Dr. H. D. Hall in New York. When thirteen years old he located at Middleburgh. The doctor served three terms as a school trustee, employing the best teachers and is thoroughly acquainted with the college text books for a graded school. At that time the school was exploded and the change was made. On November 1, 1875, the doctor married a brown-haired girl. They had one daughter, now the wife of Dr. J. C. Nelson, a prominent physician of Princeton, Portland county. The doctor's present wife was Miss Anna Pettit of Richmond Springs.

Seymour Shafer, clerk in the Free-voer House at Middleburgh, is popular with the traveling public. He was born at Richmond, N. Y., October 1, 1862. His father, John Shafer, was a hotel man



of extensive proportions. At what is now the White House and afterwards the Empire House at Richmond. He was a landlord and his son, who is the same man, The latter married George Clough, son of George Clough of Grand

born October 1, 1884. He is an active worker in the local democratic party. He began the hotel

business at Middleburgh very widely acquainted with the hotel patrons of the State. He has served five years in the State Department and is an honorary member of the steamer company. He is a noted deacon of the Middleburgh Lodge F. & A. M. and commander of the Odd Fellows. He is also a member of the Red Men.

Mrs. A. P. Snyder, of Middleburgh, has for eight years been in the dress-making business in Middleburgh. After ten years' experience, Mrs. Snyder gives the ladies of Middleburgh an opportunity to secure the latest styles of hats without the necessity of going out of town. She brings direct from New York the latest line of fabric, fancy goods, dress silks, fancy veils, hats, ribbons, articles for making hats, work, ready-made muslin, woollen underwear, velvet, etc. Her trimmings are up to the times and the very prettiest that can be devised.

Mrs. L. C. White has proven that a thoroughly business woman can successfully manage a first-class hotel without stepping out of her natural sphere in life. On the death of her husband,



William S. White, which occurred January 31, 1884, she was left with the large hotel property in the White House on her hands. She was placed in the position where she had to sacrifice valuable interests of her late husband's management. With no capital to pick she at once chose the latter alternative. With business sagacity and an earnest desire to preserve all in the world that was left to her, she took the reins entirely in her own hands and has been rewarded with a prosperous and paying business. Her husband was formerly from Catskill. He took the White House in April, 1877. Mrs. White is a native of Brooklyn and a graduate of the High School in that city. She married Mr. White December 11, 1880. By perseverance and excellent management she has made the White House one of the best hotels along the Schoharie river.

The Hotel Martin, a popular hostelry on Railroad street, was purchased by Peter Martin, fifteen years ago. Mr. Martin, a native of Assa, Connecticut, came to America when seventeen years old. He acquired a considerable competence as a restaurant at Schoharie, which he conducted for fifteen years. Twenty years ago he owned an interest in the hotel property at Howe's Cove. Since he purchased the Hotel Martin he has built a large addition, making it one of the largest hotels in town. He is well known as a hearty, good natured landlord, and his hotel is a favorite resort.

George Simpkins, the Middleburgh representative of GRIFFIN & GORDON, has served faithfully as assistant in the National Express office. He possesses good business qualities and is widely acquainted. He could make a bustling local manager in any branch of business.

The Express Business of the town has grown enormously since the National Express company established an office there ten years ago. Mr. Charles L. Haines, a popular young man, was



placed in charge and since then he has drummed up the business to double what it was the first year. His duties at first included messenger service on the railroad. Now he has a regular messenger, Mr. George Bassler, and an assistant in the office, Mr. George Simpkins,

besides wagon delivery and driver. In the shipment of plums and dairy produce there has been a wonderful increase, 30,000 baskets of plums having been shipped the past season. The conservative, safe and ample facilities afforded by the National are behind their hustling agent. Mr. Haines was born in Fulton, December 25, 1859. On December 17, 1884, he married Lizzie E., the daughter of John Kinney of Middleburgh. He is a red-hot democrat and a worker. He belongs to the Masonic order and is the foreman of the Scribner hook and ladder company.

The Post Office rates among the best in the county. There have been generally the appointment on both sides of leading business men—in this way the best standard of excellence has been maintained—such reputable business men as Jacob Neville (democrat), W. E. Bassler (republican), and Alonzo Almy (democrat), the present incumbent. The office distributes mail to eastern Schoharie and south-eastern Albany counties via Livingstonville, Franklinton, Preston Hollow and Potter's Hollow. Mail is also forwarded to south-eastern Schoharie county via Fulton, Breakabeen and Blenheim. The office attendance is prompt and seldom an error occurs. EDWARD COWAN, the deputy, is in charge and CLAUD BOECK is his assistant.

Frank X. Straub, the founder and owner of the telegraph line and business in Middleburgh, has been personally identified with every public improvement in the town, including the village in-



corporation and the establishment of the fire department. He was born in Stuttgart, Wurtemberg, Germany, June 1, 1847, of Catholic parentage. At the age of four years he landed in New York. He was educated in a German school in

Brooklyn and settled in Middleburgh in 1868. He was confirmed in St. Luke's church at Middleburgh by the Rt. Rev. Wm. C. Doane in 1869. In 1870 he married Emmarte E., the daughter of Montreville Genesey, of Middleburgh. In 1880 he visited his old home in Germany and received a royal welcome. He has been an active member of the Good Templars, the Columbian Literary

society, the F. and A. M., and the I. O. O. F. He took an active part in organizing the volunteer fire department. He built the telegraph line which he owns and operates, June 1, 1889. He has control of the telephone and the local office of the United States signal service.

The Fire Department, one of the best of the volunteers in the state, was organized December 31, 1857, by a vote of the village trustees. William Thorne, president, J. C. Borst, George S. Lynes and Frank Snyder, trustees. George L. Danforth was elected chief and has since held that office. A neat and commodious two story brick building had already been constructed at the moderate cost of \$2,000. A steamer and a hook and ladder company were organized. Subscriptions were taken to purchase a steamer, which has proven a useful and first-class article, at a cost of \$2,000. J. M. Scribner, a New York business man who makes Middleburgh his summer home, drew his check for the purchase of a hook and ladder truck, and the company was named after him.

THE OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

Chief Engineer—GEORGE L. DANFORTH.

Assistant Chief—EMMETT VROMAN.

Clerk—GEORGE BASSLER.

Treasurer—GEORGE E. BORST.

Fire Board consists of the President of the Board of Trustees of the village, the Chief Engineer and the Foreman of each company.

The rules of the department were printed by the board of trustees and accepted by the department. Each company has monthly meetings and the department quarterly meetings.

J. M. SCRIBNER H. AND L. CO.

Foreman, CHARLES L. HAINES.

First Assistant, FRANK BENN.

Second Assistant, G. L. FOX.

Secretary, JOHN C. MILLER.

Treasurer, E. W. VROMAN.

Drill Master, HENRY SHAVER.

Porter, MONROE BAKER.

Honorary Members: John M. Scribner, W. E. Thorne, J. C. Borst, G. N. Frisbie, J. S. Vroman, John Rossman, M.D., Jacob Neville (deceased Sept. 16, 1891), W. E. Bassler, Durvea Beekman, W. G. Putnam, J. E. Young, P. S. Danforth (deceased July 10, 1892), J. B. Badgley, James Lawver (deceased Oct., 1891), C. S. Best, M.D., W. H. Beller, H. D. Wells, Charles A. White.

Charter Members: C. M. Badgley, E. D. Becker, Dow Beekman, George Billings, I. L. Brayman, J. M. Burchard, H. Braze, A. W. Chatfield, J. L. Dennison, F. W. Fox, Lee Frederick, C. L. Haines, Theodore Head, I. B. Hess, J. T. Kelsey, A. J. Kniffen, Henry McBain, W. H. Neville, M. E. Owen, C. H. Rhinehardt, E. Simpkins, G. W. Simpkins, A. W. Stevenson, F. X. Straub, W. Travers, E. W. Vroman, Jesse Vroman, T. B. Vroman, W. C. Vroman, F. A. Wells, F. L. Williams, C. E. White, M. Wilson, W. T. Rivenbergh, M.D., G. D. Frisbie, D. A. Reynolds.

Members since Admitted: George Hill, Manly Petchel, George L. Fox, R. Whitney, Emmet Pechtel, Henry Shaver, Marvin Rivenbergh, Frank Benn, Charles Beller, B. G. Cornell, Wm. Hotaling, John Miller, C. Winegar, George Burchard, James Baker, Frank Bliss, Christopher Effner, Gordon Dibble, N. Manning, Jr., T. Grant Ferguson.

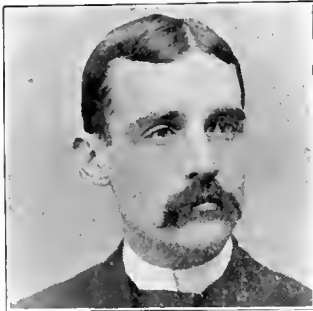
STEAMER COMPANY NO. 1.

Foreman, GEORGE W. CORNELL.

First Assistant, GEORGE BASSLER.

The Clerks—Reference has been made to them in another paragraph. The clerk is the business man of the future. In Middleburgh we find at W. E. Bassler & Co.'s behind the counter courteous and active, fully attendant on his duties, HOWARD BEST, of Fulton, who has probably been there two years. At Sullivan & Haynes is ARTHUR M. BAIN, a faithful clerk about five years; at Engle Bros., FRANK BENN, who is popular and has about four or five years' experience, and HENRY WILBUR, who is prompt and pleasant. At the White House, JEROME HAGADORN is in charge, a genial, attentive gentleman. At G. W. Vroman's there are T. B. VROMAN and CHRIS. M. EFFNER, the former there for four or five years and the latter for two years. Both are popular and faithful. At Alonzo Almy's there is RALPH BRAZEE, who began a year or so ago and who is agreeable and obliging to all. At D. D. & G. D. Frisbie's there are MESSRS. CHESTER VROMAN, of Fulton, and CHARLES MAILLE, of Blenheim, both popular and obliging young men. The former has been there about four years and the latter two years. At West & Taylor's is CHARLES DUNMORE, who attends strictly and faithfully to his business. At John Cornell & Co.'s are JOHN MILLER and GEORGE BURCHARD. The former has been there about eight years and the latter about three years. Both are widely known and well liked.

Willard T. Rivenbergh, M.D., a young physician, enjoys a large practice and a reputable place in the profession. He has served as president and vice-president in the Medical society



of Schoharie county and is now medical examiner for several well known insurance companies, chief of which are the Mutual Life of New York, the Northwestern and the United States Accident. The doctor's ancestry are revolutionary stock. His wife who was Miss Belle Stanton, is a descendant of notable early pioneers, among whom was the illustrious General Dana, who was immortalized in general orders by General Washington immediately following the battle of Bunker Hill. Dr. Rivenbergh's mother was a Pultz, who was related to Walter Gunn and wife, distinguished Lutheran missionaries in India. The doctor was educated at the Boys' Academy, Troy, the South Berkshire Institute, Massachusetts, and the University of Buffalo, where he took the M. D. degree, graduating in 1885. He was president of the Alpha Omega Delta society, and his sheepskin bears his own official signature as such. He was married at Middleburgh, October 14, 1891. His wife is a graduate of the Albany Female Academy.

Bates & Zeh is an important cigar manufacturing firm of Middleburgh. They succeeded the firm of Dillinger & Bates which was organized March 1, 1891, by L. O. J. Dillinger and E. Bates. The business was continued by them until December 15, 1893, when E. Bates purchased the interest of Mr. Dillinger and sold the same to George E. Zeh and the firm has since continued business

under the firm name of Bates & Zeh. The firm produced 250,000 cigars the first year, and their product has steadily increased up to the present time.

George L. Fox, editor of the Middleburgh *News*, was born in Middleburgh, N. Y., April 3, 1871. In 1888 he began the publication of *The American Youth*, in Middleburgh, a monthly story paper



with a circulation in every state in the union, and in 1889 sold it to a good advantage to a publishing house in Boston. He subsequently purchased the *South Orange, N. J., Journal* and moved it to Middleburgh, where he associated himself with Wellington E. Bassler, a prominent business man and republican, in the publication of the *Middleburgh News*, a weekly republican paper. The field was small and the venture unpromising, but with energy and perseverance the publication has been pushed into the front rank of republican weekly papers, where it has proven successful. It is now one of the leading papers of the county. Its circulation has grown rapidly. It is foremost in agitating local improvements. The plant has been enlarged and is now fully equipped for first class newspaper and job work. Mr. Fox is a member of Middleburgh Lodge No. 663, F. and A. M., a member and recording secretary of La Bastille Lodge No. 494, I. O. O. F., and Chief of Records of Oncongena Tribe, I. O. R. M.

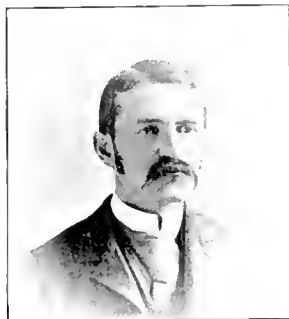
The Middleburgh Lodge F. and A. M., No. 663, was chartered June 6, 1868. To day it has forty-seven members in good standing and a well provided treasury. It was the first lodge in the 11th Masonic district to pay its pro rata assessment to the Masonic Hall and Asylum fund. The amount was \$647; the date of payment December 31, 1887. The meetings of the lodge are on the second and fourth Friday in every month, in the Neville building. The officers: Dow Beekman, W. M.; Emmet Vroman, S. W.; George B. Haynes, J. W.; J. Schuyler Vroman, treasurer; G. S. Atchinson, secretary; W. T. Rivenbergh, S. D.; George S. Hill, J. D.; C. L. Hames, F. M. C.; Wm. Loucks, S. M. C.; Rev. C. W. Pitcher, Chaplain, Chas. Reeves, Tyler.

Wellington E. Bassler is the son of David Bassler who for fifteen years conducted a store in Huntersland and in 1869 bought the Luther Vroman store in Middleburgh. Here the business has since continued, the son taking a half interest in 1871, and the father retiring in favor of John H. Cornell in April, 1875. The latter withdrew January 1, 1880, and in 1887 C. L. McBan and George B. Wheeler became the company in the firm of W. E.



The Middleburgh Encampment No. 129, I. O. O. F. was instituted February 24, 1892, and has about seventy members. It meets in the Fredericks building the first and third Friday in the month. The officers: C. E. White, C. P.; Wm. Dunmore, H. P.; Chas. Snyder, S. W.; F. A. Sullivan, J. W.; J. K. Alverson, Scribe; Dr. John Rossman, Treasurer; James Coons, I. S.; F. W. Fox, 1st W.; Carlton Cornwell, 2d W.; C. Van Voris, 3d W.; A. Richtmyer, 4th W.

Daniel D. Frisbie, the editor of the *Schoharie Republican*, was born in Middleburgh November 30, 1859. His ancestors were New England settlers, one of them an officer in the revolution. He



completed a collegiate course at Hartwick in 1876 and entered the store of Earls & Frisbie as clerk April 1 the same year. Five years later he was the junior member of the firm of Frisbie & Son. On April 1, 1891, he became the head of the firm of D. D. & G. D. Frisbie, a

leading mercantile house in the county. In 1890 he acquired a half interest in one of the finest hop farms in the town and is a member of the Hop Growers association. He was the president of the local democratic campaign club in 1882; also in 1884. He was member and treasurer of the county committee in 1886-7. On August 8, 1887, he purchased the *Schoharie Republican* and re-established that paper on a paying basis. He has been delegate to various county and state conventions. He is treasurer of the Middleburgh academy and a member of the orders of Masons and Red Men. He is secretary of the Middleburgh and Schoharie railroad. He is interested in local enterprises and prominent in the affairs of the town.



J. L. ENGLE.

Engle Brothers have demonstrated that a large general mercantile establishment can be successfully conducted on strictly a cash basis. During the four years they have been exclusively partners in the business it has taken rapid strides. The broth-

ers, who constitute the firm, are Jacob L. and Andrew B., born September 23, 1848 and December 11, 1862, respectively. Jacob, at fifteen years of age was clerk with Jacob Neville one of the most successful merchants of the county. At twenty-six years of age he became a partner. In 1880 the business was moved from the dock into the present quarters, the Neville building. In 1885 Andrew was taken in as a partner and for five years the firm did business under the name of Neville, Engle & Co.



A. B. ENGLE.

The former then retired. The business was at once changed from the credit to the cash basis and has since steadily grown in importance. The second floor was opened for a bargain department and an entirely new stock of dry goods and general merchandise was put in. The store has since been fitted with a cash carrier system on both floors converging to a cashier's desk. It is one of the two stores in the county using the cash carrier system.

Kelsey, Vroman & Co., Middleburgh, N. Y.

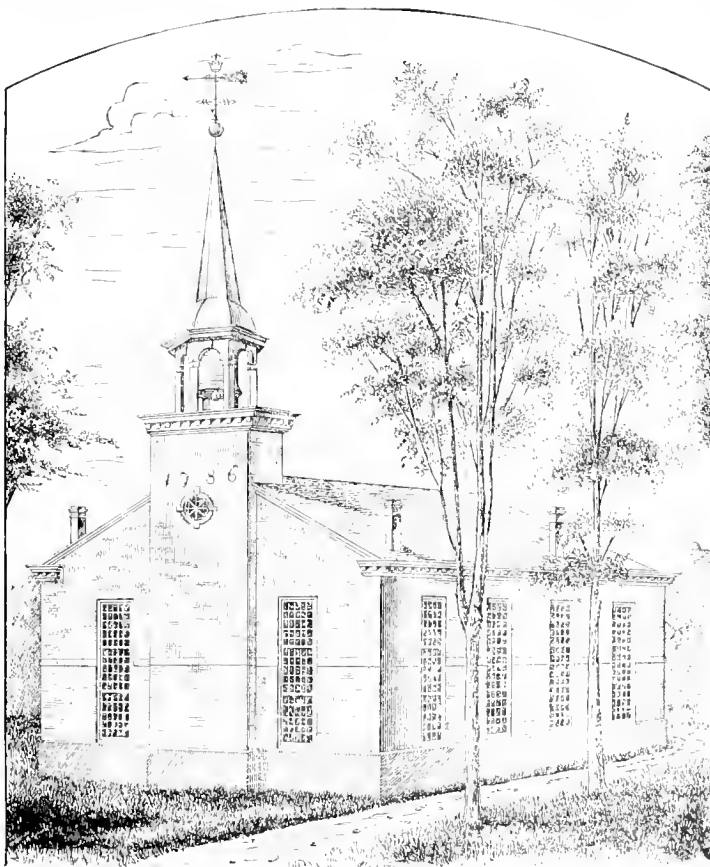
A LARGE CLOTHING AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS HOUSE.

This firm was established April, 1891, and succeeded Dodge & France. The members of the firm are Joshua T. Kelsey, E. W. Vroman and Charles E. White. They are young men, born and reared in the town in which they are engaged in business, thoroughly experienced in their line of trade, and fully acquainted with the wants of the large agricultural section from which they draw their patronage. Each member of the firm was engaged in the mercantile business for a considerable time prior to their present organization. Mr. Kelsey was with Dodge & France fifteen years; Mr. Vroman was with Frisbie & Son from 1880 to 1891, and Mr. White had served some years in the clothing business. He is a graduate of the Albany Business College. Each one is personally identified with the local lodges and are active in the social life of the village. Messrs. White and Vroman are Odd Fellows and the latter is also a Mason. Mr. Kelsey is a member of the local Order of Red Men. Their store is the largest exclusive clothing and furnishing goods store in the county. It occupies the main floors of the Dodge building on Main street. In connection therewith they carry an extensive line of boots and shoes, rubbers and arctics. All the departments of the large Albany stores are represented in this establishment with the advantages of lower rents and considerably lighter expenses all around.

Whitehall, West Hebron, Belcher, Sandy Hill and Livingston's church, Troy. The present TRUSTEES: W. H. Albro, G. S. Lynes, G. B. Wheeler. CLASS LEADERS: G. W. Vroman, G. B. Wheeler, Harvey Borst, Smith Requa, E. F. Tibbits, Alonzo Zimmer, Geo. E. Haines, Noah D. West, Andrew Lawyer. STEWARDS: A. B. Engle, W. C. West, C. L. McBain, Joel Barber, J. T. Kelsey, Joseph Becker, J. F. White, R. S. Keyser, E. Bates. SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS: Superintendent, W. A. Requa; assistant superintendent, G. B. Wheeler; secretary, J. C. Miller; treasurer, E. W. Vroman; superintendent primary department, Miss Mabel Pierson.

THE EPWORTH LEAGUE

was organized January, 1891, and has 150 members. The officers President, G. B. Wheeler; 1st vice-president, W. A. Requa; 2d vice-president, Mrs. A. Crippen; 3d vice-president, Miss Grace Becker; 4th vice-president, Miss Grace Albro; secretary, Miss Alice M. Requa; treasurer, Mrs. H. B. Snyder.



The Reformed Dutch Church is probably the oldest society worshipping in the oldest building in this part of the state outside of possibly Albany and Schenectady. The building was constructed in 1786, and to day its walls are in a perfect state of preservation, kept freshly painted and in good order. The funds were raised by committees sent through the colonies making collections. The first sermon preached in the edifice was by George W. Schneider on November 18, 1787. The church building stands in a maple shaded plot, near the river shore. The tower and spire are

at the north end, towards the street. The entrance is at the south end, probably to secure better protection from the winds. The society observed its centennial anniversary August 19, 1886, and at that time the Hon. George L. Danforth delivered a carefully and ably prepared address which has since been printed. It includes probably all known records. From this most interesting sketch we take a few facts. The earliest record of the organization as such which he finds is 1730, though he concludes that 1728 is nearer the exact year. The first record of the meeting house is in 1753. Prior to that time the congregation probably worshipped in private dwellings, or perhaps in the school house or a barn. There was no other church building until the Lutheran church was built in 1824. The first Reformed church was a frame building, which he believes was erected in 1732. Roscoe finds a record of its dedication on December 18, 1737. It was burned with the rest of the village by Johnson and Brant October 17, 1780. The first bell was suspended in 1803. It weighed 704 pounds and was cast by Julius

Hanks in Troy. The present bell, weighing 1174 pounds, cast by Menceley, of Troy, was suspended in 1875. The first preacher in the settlement was Hendrick Hager, 1713. The succeeding pastors were: Fred Hager, 1720; John Jacob Ehle, 1730; Reinhardt Erickson, 1732; Michael Weiss, 1732-6; Johannes Schuyler, 1730-55; John Mauritius Goetschius, 1757-60; Abram Rosekrantz, 1760-5; Johannes Schuyler, 1766-70; assisted by Rynier Van Nest, who was pastor 1780-5; George W. Schneider, 1785-8; Rev. J. C. Boeffer, 1788-97; Rynier Van Nest, 1797-1804; David Devoc, 1812-15; John T. Schermerhorn, 1816-27; John Garretson, 1827-33; John B. Steele, 1834-38; Joshua Boyd, 1840-2; L. Mes-serrean, 1842-5; Jacob West, 1846-52; I. M. See, 1852-4; E. Vedder, 1855-63; Wm. E. Bogardus, 1863-4; John S. Scott, D. D., 1865-70; Sanford W. Roe, D. D., 1871-6; John D. Gardner, 1876-80; Elbert Nevius Sebring, 1880-5; David Kline Van Doren, 1885-90.

THE REV. CHARLES WADSWORTH PITCHER, a conscientious, faithful and progressive clergyman, a bright pulpit speaker and a social pastor, came to this church January 1, 1881, and is still in discharge of his duties. He has a large congregation who give him the best support. The Rev. Mr. Pitcher commands influence be-

cause he wields an active hand in other organizations. For instance, he is chaplain of the Masonic order and in other respects is alive to the public interests. He was born at Cohoes, March 2, 1849. He was educated at New Brunswick, N. J., and was ordained at Randolph, N. Y., January 20, 1870. His pastorates include Randolph, N. Y., 1870-83; Stanton, N. J., 1883-7; Ringoes, N. J., the widely famed Kirkpatrick Memorial church, 1887-91. THE ELDERS—G. L. Danforth, W. E. Bassler, George Zeh, William B. Becker, J. L. Engle. THE DEACONS—C. W. Vroman, William Dunmore, Charles Straub, Frank A. Wells, Joseph Jenks.



THE COUNTY ALMSHOUSE, SCHENECTADY, N. Y. (See page 17.)

The County Almshouse occupies a slight spot surrounded by cultivated land and orchards on the slope of the hill to the west of the village. The ten producers liberally for the tables of the institution, usually with a surplus to send to the market. The buildings have recently been repaired and greatly improved by the addition of beds and piazzas. The interior was rearranged for greater comfort and convenience. Pipes were laid from the Beltinger spring, on the summit of the mountain, through the house, to which the water is conducted with a fall of 242 feet. Hydrants have been placed about the grounds and hot and cold water taps throughout buildings, with modern flush closets and bathtubs. The total expense was \$7,147. No county in the state can boast of a cleaner, more wholesome and better arranged



SCHENECTADY COUNTY COURTHOUSE, N. Y.

alms-house. Mr. and Mrs. Spickard and wife have been in faithful attendance upon the premises since 1857. They have proven competent and have exercised every economy for the county, as they would have done in a private institution. The general superintending of the poor is now conducted by Mr. John Young, the county's pennitendent. Mr. Spickard has been in Heperstide, Delaware County, Pa., since 1854. At twenty-nine years of age, he married Anna, the daughter of Hiram Warren, of Jefferson. They managed a farm until they were called to take charge of the almshouse. There were at the time of his appointment 100 inmates, and he was ordered to take charge of the property of the almshouse at a salary of \$1,000. It is a good action, will save the county \$10,000 a year.

The Red Men, once known as the No. 1, were chartered Jan. 14, 1871, and there are now fifty members. It meets the first and second Thursday in every month. The officers: R. D. Gordon, Sachem; J. W. R. Lee, Past Sachem; Dow Beckman, Prophet; C. L. Haines, Senior Sachem; D. D. Fiske, Junior Sachem; G. L. Fox, Chief of Records; Alvin Almy, Keeper of Wampum; John Miller, Counselor of Wampum; W. T. Riverberg, M. D., First Sagoy; J. P. Segner, 2d Sagoy; J. T. Kelsey, Gene of the Wigwag; P. Smith, Grand of the Forest.

A Tribute to a Faithful Officer. With the close of the year Hon. Arthur D. Mead, who has served as clerk for Schoharie county two terms, six years, will retire. He has proven highly honorable and faithful in the discharge of his duties. The best men of both parties on Tuesday, November 20, 1874, met at Schoharie and presented Mr. Mead with a diamond scarf pin. He was complimented on all sides and in a very appropriate manner he returned thanks. The festivities closed with a banquet at the Hotel Schoharie.

Edward D. Hagar, merchant, supervisor, and



postmaster at West Fenton. He was born in Middleburgh in 1847. He is the democratic leader in the town. He served in the state assembly in 1872, on the county committee for more than twenty years and as supervisor for several terms.

Peter H. Smith, a large property owner was born in Middleburgh, August 25, 1831. He married Alice P. Bagley (d. M. Middleburgh), March 20, 1858. She is a faithful and active member of the Methodist church. Mr. Smith is a member of the Improved Order of Red Men. He started in the smithing and wagon making in 1851 and has built up a large business.

M. W. Baker, proprietor of the Baker House, was born in the town of Wright, February 24, 1831. He conducted a hotel in that town two years. Eight years ago he took possession of the Baker House. He married Mary C. Shell of Wright in August 1872. Mr. Baker has improved the location of his house every year, and is making the business a success.

Martin A. Akeley, postmaster at West Fenton,



Schoharie Co., is serving his second term in that position. He was first appointed February 23, 1873 by the President Cleveland. His second appointment was July 22, 1875. He is a practical politician and a leader in the local party.



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Established 1855

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The Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank,

FORT PLAIN, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1855

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Capital \$100,000 Surplus \$100,000 Assets \$1,000,000

CAPITAL (paid in) \$150,000. SURPLUS, \$70,000.

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President, E. M. H.

Cashier, T. C. T. 1850

AGE IMPROVES IT.

It is a fact that the human body is made of cells, and these cells are constantly being renewed. The process of renewal is called "regeneration." The cells of the body are made of a substance called "protein." The protein is made of amino acids. The amino acids are made of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen. The carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen are made of atoms. The atoms are made of protons and neutrons. The protons and neutrons are made of quarks. The quarks are made of... (The text continues with a detailed explanation of the scientific process of regeneration, emphasizing the role of protein and amino acids in maintaining the body's structure and function.)

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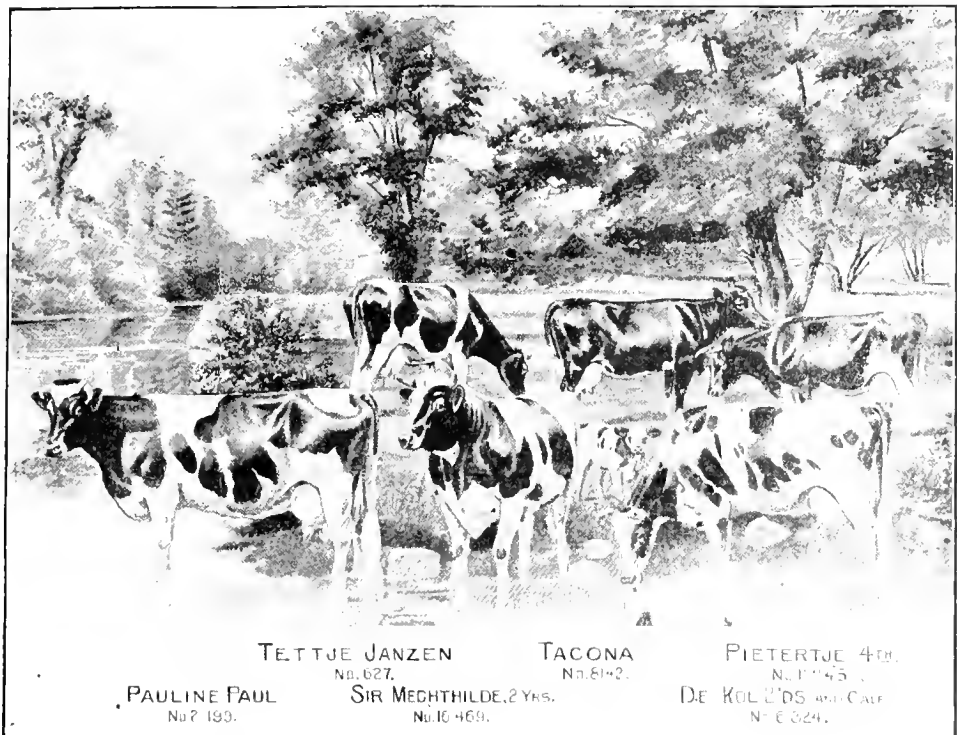
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The Queen, No. 2199, H. H. B., 557, A. R. (10 yrs. old), 31 lbs. 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ ozs. in 7 days;
128 lbs. 13 $\frac{1}{8}$ ozs. in 30 days; 1153 lbs. 15 $\frac{3}{4}$ ozs. in 365 consecutive days.

DAILY AVERAGE FOR SEVEN CONSECUTIVE DAYS for the FIVE COWS and dam and
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SIR MECHTHILDE, No. 10469, H. F. H. B., at 2 yrs. His dam, Tirania, No. 6716, H. H. B., and
his sire's dam, Mechthilde — their average 7 day's butter record, 38 lbs. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ ozs.

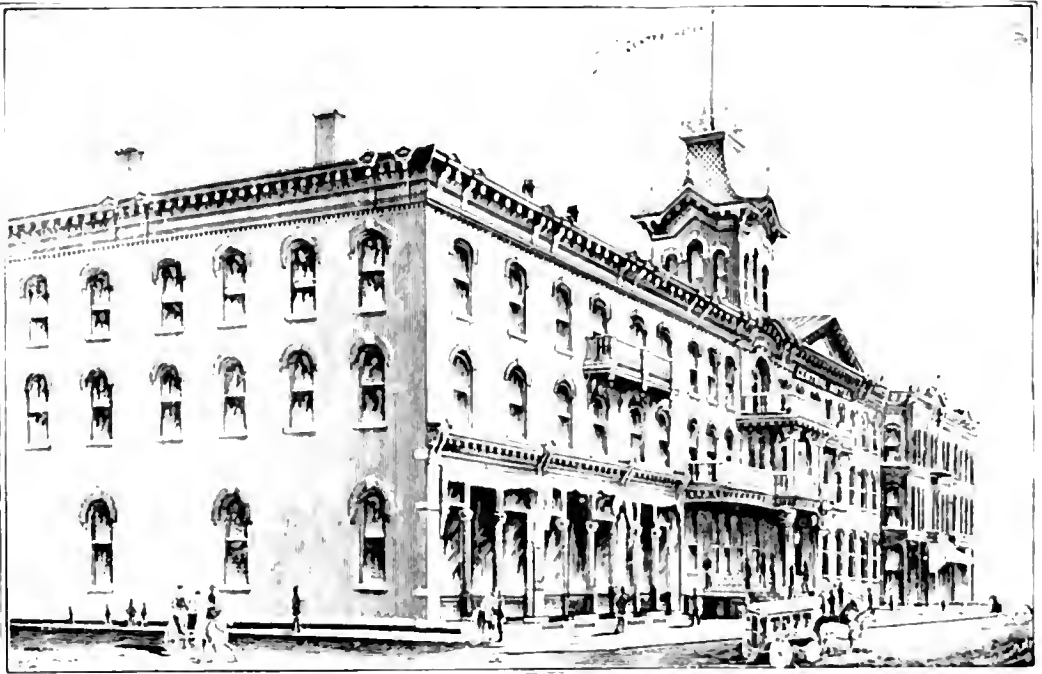
TACONA, No. 8142, H. H. B., at 8 yrs. Butter record, at 6 yrs., 30 lbs. 2 ozs. in 7 days.

TETTJE JANZEN, No. 627, D. F. H. B., at 10 yrs. Butter record, at 8 yrs., 30 lbs. 9 ozs. in 7
days; 4 lbs. 4 ozs. in 1 day.

PIETERTJE 4th, No. 11245, H. F. H. B., 481, A. R., at 7 yrs. Butter at 6 yrs., 26 lbs. 14 ozs. in 7
days; 104 lbs. 2 ozs. in 30 days; 200 lbs. 9 ozs. in 60 days; 453 lbs. in 150 days.

Champion 3 yr. Old of the World — **DE KOL 2ds**, Queen and calf, No. 6324, H. F. H., 1 B., 662, A.
R., at 5 yrs. Butter record, at 3 yrs., 28 lbs. 7 ozs. in 7 days; 1447 lbs. milk to 1 lb. butter.

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